[*English*] 37 Spice(s)

India's Share in Spice Trade

*384. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a decline in India's share in spice trade in the international market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) to (c) There is some fall in our share in world trade in spices. This is due to a variety of reasons, the main reasons being (a) increase in domestic consumption, (b) high prices in domestic market, (c) fall in international prices of major spices, and (d) lower productivity leading to India being generally out-priced by competitors. The Spices Board has taken the following measures to promote exports of spices from India :

(1) Encouraging export of value added items like spice oils and oleoresins, spice blends and mixes and also export in branded consumer packs,

(2) Sending delegations/study teams to selected markets for market promotion,

(3) Arranging buyer-seller meets in India for business development,

(4) Participating in selected international fairs and exhibitions,

(5) To popularise various brands of Indian spices and to develop loyalty to Indian Brands, the Spices Board have introduced a Brand Promotion Scheme,

(6) Taking up development and research programmes for increasing productivity and production of spices,

(7) Undertaking various steps such as grower education and establishment of quality upgradation laboratory for improving cleanliness of Indian spices to meet importers requirements.

The exchange rate adjustment and the enlarged REP Scheme are expected to give an impetus to the growth in export of spices.

38 **Average Population coverage by a Bank Branch**

*385. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the average population covered by a bank branch in the States of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir and West Bengal, separately; and

(b) the all India average of population covered by a bank branch ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) : Average population per bank office (APPBO) as on 30-12-1990 in the States of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal is given below :—

Name of State	APPBO (Rounded off to thousand
Punjab	8000
Himachal Pradesh	6000
Karnataka	9000
Kerala	9000
Goa	4000
Jammu & Kashmir	8000
West Bengal	13000

The All India average on that date was 11000.

39 Orissa

Upgradation of Bhubaneshwar to 'B' Class City

2334. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the population of Bhubaneshwar city as per 1981 and 1991 census;